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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 7 : C07K 14/00 | A2

(11) International Publication Number: **WO 00/69900**

(43) International Publication Date: 23 November 2000 (23.11.00)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/13576

(22) International Filing Date: 17 May 2000 (17.05.00)

(30) Priority Data:

60/134,406	17 May 1999 (17.05.99)	US
60/153,406	10 September 1999 (10.09.99)	US
60/159,783	15 October 1999 (15.10.99)	US

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(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.

(54) Title: PROTECTION OF ENDOGENOUS THERAPEUTIC PEPTIDES FROM PEPTIDASE ACTIVITY THROUGH CONJUGATION TO BLOOD COMPONENTS

(57) Abstract

A method for protecting a peptide from peptidase activity *in vivo*, the peptide being composed of between 2 and 50 amino acids and having a C-terminus and an N-terminus and a C-terminus amino acid and an N-terminus amino acid is described. In the first step of the method, the peptide is modified by attaching a reactive group to the C-terminus amino acid, to the N-terminus amino acid, or to an amino acid located between the N-terminus and the C-terminus, such that the modified peptide is capable of forming a covalent bond *in vivo* with a reactive functionality on a blood component. In the next step, a covalent bond is formed between the reactive group and a reactive functionality on a blood component to form a peptide-blood component conjugate, thereby protecting said peptide from peptidase activity. The final step of the method involves the analyzing of the stability of the peptide-blood component conjugate to assess the protection of the peptide from peptidase activity.

Relevant pages only.

total pages 433

dimethylformamide (DMF) and 3 times with isopropanol. The peptide is cleaved from the resin using 85% TFA/5% TIS/5% thioanisole and 5% phenol, followed by precipitation by dry-ice cold Et2O (Step 4). The product is purified by preparative reverse phase HPLC using a Varian (Rainin) preparative binary HPLC system: gradient elution of 30-55% B (0.045% TFA in H2O (A) and 0.045% TFA in CH3CN (B)) over 180 min at 9.5 mL/min using a Phenomenex Luna 10 μ phenyl-hexyl, 21 mm x 25 cm column and UV detector (Varian Dynamax UVD II) at λ 214 and 254 nm to afford the desired DAC in >95% purity, as determined by RP-HPLC.

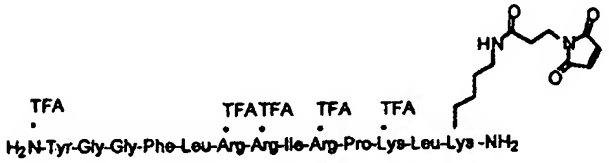
Example 8 – Modification of Dyn A 1-13 at the ε-Amino Group of the Added C-terminus Lysine Residue - Synthesis of Dyn A 1-13(Nε-MPA)-NH_2

Tyr-Gly-Gly-Phe-Leu-Arg-Arg-Ile-Arg-Pro-Lys-Leu-Lys-(Nε-MPA)-NH_2

Solid phase peptide synthesis of a modified Dyn A 1-13 on a 100 μmole scale was performed using manual solid-phase synthesis, a Symphony Peptide Synthesizer and Fmoc protected Rink Amide MBHA. The following protected amino acids were sequentially added to resin: Fmoc-Lys(Aloc)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Ile-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Phe-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Tyr(tBu)-OH. They were dissolved in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and, according to the sequence, activated using O-benzotriazol-1-yl-*N*, *N*, *N'*, *N'*-tetramethyl-uronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU) and Diisopropylethylamine (DIEA). Removal of the Fmoc protecting group is achieved using a solution of 20% (V/V) piperidine in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) for 20 minutes (Step 1).The selective deprotection of the Lys (Aloc) group is performed manually and accomplished by treating the resin with a solution of 3 eq of $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ dissolved in 5 mL of $CHCl_3$:NMM:HOAc (18:1:0.5) for 2 h (Step 2). The resin is then washed with $CHCl_3$ (6 x 5 mL), 20% HOAc in DCM (6 x 5

mL), DCM (6 x 5 mL), and DMF (6 x 5 mL). The synthesis is then re-automated for the addition of the 3-maleimidopropionic acid (Step 3). Between every coupling, the resin is washed 3 times with *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and 3 times with isopropanol. The peptide is cleaved from the resin using 85% TFA/5% TIS/5% thioanisole and 5% phenol, followed by precipitation by dry-ice cold Et_2O (Step 4). The product is purified by preparative reverse phase HPLC using a Varian (Rainin) preparative binary HPLC system: gradient elution of 30-55% B (0.045% TFA in H_2O (A) and 0.045% TFA in CH_3CN (B)) over 180 min at 9.5 mL/min using a Phenomenex Luna 10 μ phenyl-hexyl, 21 mm x 25 cm column and UV detector (Varian Dynamax UVD II) at λ 214 and 254 nm to afford the desired DAC in >95% purity, as determined by RP-HPLC.

The structure of this product is



Example 9 - Modification of Dyn A 2-13 at the ε-Amino Group of the Added C-terminus Lysine Residue - Synthesis of Dyn A 2-13(Nε-MPA)-NH_2

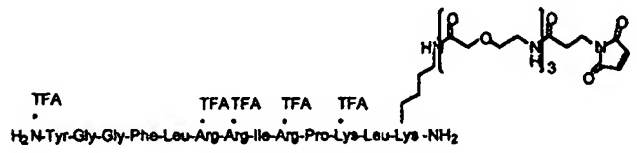
Gly-Gly-Phe-Leu-Arg-Arg-Ile-Arg-Pro-Lys-Leu-Lys-(Nε-MPA)-NH_2

Using automated peptide synthesis, the following protected amino acids were sequentially added to Rink Amide MBHA resin: Fmoc-Lys(Mtt)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Ile-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Phe-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, and Boc-Gly-OH. Manual synthesis was employed for the remaining steps: selective removal of the Mtt group and coupling of MPA using HBTU/HOBt/DIEA activation in

DMF. The target dynorphin analog was removed from the resin; the product was isolated by precipitation and purified by preparative HPLC to afford the desired product as a white solid upon lyophilization in a 35% yield. Anal. HPLC indicated product to be >95% pure with R_t = 30.42 min. ESI-MS *m/z* for $C_{73}H_{123}N_{25}O_{15}$ (MH^+), calcd 1590.0, found MH^{3+} 531.3.

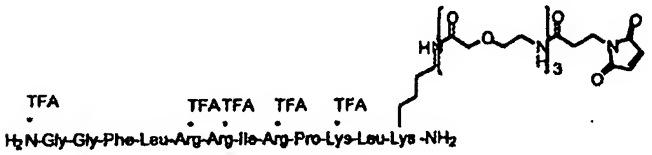
Example 10 - Modification of Dyn A 1-13 at the ε-Amino Group of the Added C-terminus Lysine Residue - Synthesis of Dyn A 1-13(AEA_3-MPA)-NH_2
Tyr-Gly-Gly-Phe-Leu-Arg-Arg-Ile-Arg-Pro-Lys-Leu-Lys-(AEA_3-MPA)-NH_2

Using automated peptide synthesis, the following protected amino acids were sequentially added to Rink Amide MBHA resin: Fmoc-Lys(Mtt)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Ile-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Phe-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, and Boc-Tyr(Boc)-OH. Manual synthesis was employed for the remaining steps: selective removal of the Mtt group, the coupling of three-Fmoc-AEA-OH groups (AEA = aminoethoxyacetic acid) with Fmoc removal in-between each coupling, and MPA acid using HBTU/HOBt/DIEA activation in DMF. The target dynorphin analog was removed from the resin; the product was isolated by precipitation and purified by preparative HPLC to afford the desired product as a white solid upon lyophilization in a 29% yield. Anal. HPLC indicated product to be >95% pure with R_t = 33.06 min. ESI-MS *m/z* for $C_{94}H_{154}N_{29}O_{23}$ (MH^+), calcd 2057.2, found MH^{4+} 515.4, MH^{3+} 686.9, MH^{2+} 1029.7.



Example 11 – Modification of Dyn A 2-13 at the ε-Amino Group of the Added C-terminus Lysine Residue - Synthesis of Dyn A 2-13(AEA$_3$-MPA)-NH$_2$
Gly-Gly-Phe-Leu-Arg-Arg-Ile-Arg-Pro-Lys-Leu-Lys-(AEA$_3$-MPA)-NH$_2$

Using automated peptide synthesis, the following protected amino acids were sequentially added to Rink Amide MBHA resin: Fmoc-Lys(Mtt)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Ile-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Phe-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, and Fmoc-Gly-OH. Manual synthesis was employed for the remaining steps: selective removal of the Mtt group, the coupling of three-Fmoc-AEA-OH groups, with Fmoc removal in-between each coupling, and MPA using HBTU/HOBt/DIEA activation in DMF. The target dynorphin analog was removed from the resin; the product was isolated by precipitation and purified by preparative HPLC to afford the desired product as a white solid upon lyophilization in a 29% yield. Anal. HPLC indicated product to be >95% pure with R_t = 31.88 min. ESI-MS *m/z* for $C_{85}H_{145}N_{25}O_{21}$ (MH^+), calcd 1894.3, found MH^{4+} 474.6, MH^{3+} 632.4, MH^{2+} 948.10.



Example 12 – Modification of Neuropeptide Y at the ε-Amino Group of the Added C-terminus Lysine Residue
Preparation of Tyr-Pro-Ser-Lys-Pro-Asp-Asn-Pro-Gly-Glu-Asp-Ala-Pro-Ala-Glu-Asp-Met-Ala-Arg-Tyr-Tyr-Ser-Ala-Leu-Lys-(N-εMPA)-NH$_2$

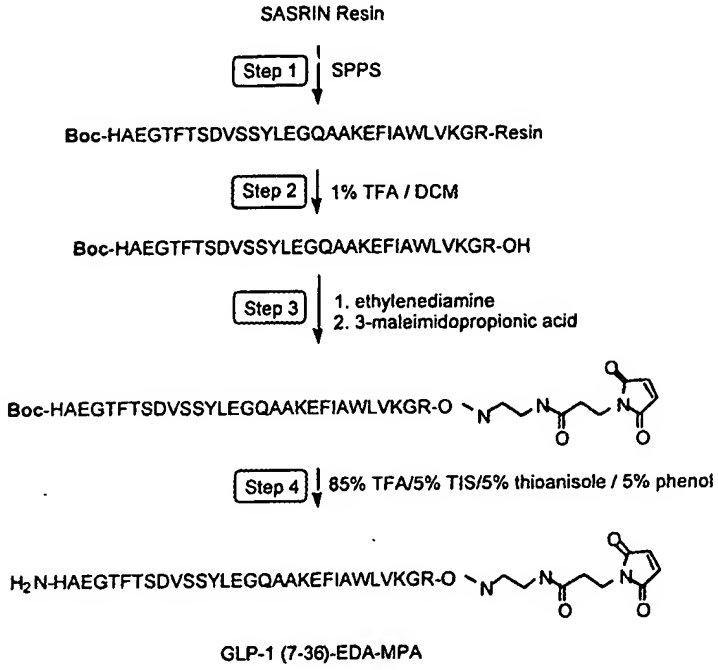
Solid phase peptide synthesis of a modified neuropeptide Y analog on a 100 µmole scale is performed using manual solid-phase synthesis, a Symphony Peptide Synthesizer and Fmoc protected Rink

Amide MBHA. The following protected amino acids were sequentially added to resin: Fmoc-Lys(Aloc)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Tyr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Tyr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Met-OH, Fmoc-Asp(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Glu(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Asp(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Glu(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Asn(Trt)-OH, Fmoc-Asp(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Tyr(tBu)-OH,They are dissolved in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and, according to the sequence, activated using O-benzotriazol-1-yl-*N*, *N*, *N'*, *N'*-tetramethyl-uronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU) and Diisopropylethylamine (DIEA). Removal of the Fmoc protecting group is achieved using a solution of 20% (*V/V*) piperidine in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) for 20 minutes (Step 1).The selective deprotection of the Lys (Aloc) group is performed manually and accomplished by treating the resin with a solution of 3 eq of $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ dissolved in 5 mL of $CHCl_3$:NMM:HOAc (18:1:0.5) for 2 h (Step 2). The resin is then washed with $CHCl_3$ (6 x 5 mL), 20% HOAc in DCM (6 x 5 mL), DCM (6 x 5 mL), and DMF (6 x 5 mL). The synthesis is then re-automated for the addition of the 3-maleimidopropionic acid (Step 3). Between every coupling, the resin is washed 3 times with *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and 3 times with isopropanol. The peptide is cleaved from the resin using 85% TFA/5% TIS/5% thioanisole and 5% phenol, followed by precipitation by dry-ice cold Et_2O (Step 4). The product is purified by preparative reverse phase HPLC using a Varian (Rainin) preparative binary HPLC system: gradient elution of 30-55% B (0.045% TFA in H_2O (A) and 0.045% TFA in CH_3CN (B)) over 180 min at 9.5 mL/min using a Phenomenex Luna 10 μ phenyl-hexyl, 21 mm x 25 cm column and UV detector (Varian Dynamax UVD II) at λ 214 and 254 nm to afford the desired DAC in >95% purity, as determined by RP-HPLC.

Example 13 - Modification of GLP-1 (7-36) at the C-Terminus Arginine
Preparation of GLP-1 (7-36)-EDA-MPA

Solid phase peptide synthesis of a modified GLP-1 analog on a 100 µmole scale is performed manually and on a Symphony Peptide Synthesizer SASRIN (super acid sensitive resin). The following protected amino acids are sequentially added to the resin: Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Val-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Trp(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Ile-OH, Fmoc-Phe-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Gln(Trt)-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmco-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Tyr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Val-OH, Fmoc-Asp(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Thr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Phe-OH, Fmoc-Thr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Boc-His(Trt)-OH. They are dissolved in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and, according to the sequence, activated using O-benzotriazol-1-yl-*N, N, N', N'*-tetramethyl-uronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU) and Diisopropylethylamine (DIEA). Removal of the Fmoc protecting group is achieved using a solution of 20% (V/V) piperidine in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) for 20 minutes (Step 1). The fully protected peptide is cleaved from the resin by treatment with 1% TFA / DCM (Step 2). Ethylenediamine and 3-maleimidopropionic acid are then sequentially added to the free *C*-terminus (Step 3). The protecting groups are then cleaved and the product isolated using 86% TFA/5% TIS/5% H_2O/2% thioanisole and 2% phenol, followed by precipitation by dry-ice cold Et_2O (Step 4). The product is purified by preparative reverse phase HPLC using a Varian (Rainin) preparative binary HPLC system using a Dynamax C_{18}, 60Å, 8 µm, 21 mm x 25 cm column equipped with a Dynamax C_{18}, 60Å, 8 µm guard module, 21 mm x 25 cm column and UV detector (Varian Dynamax UVD II) at λ 214 and 254 nm to afford the desired DAC in

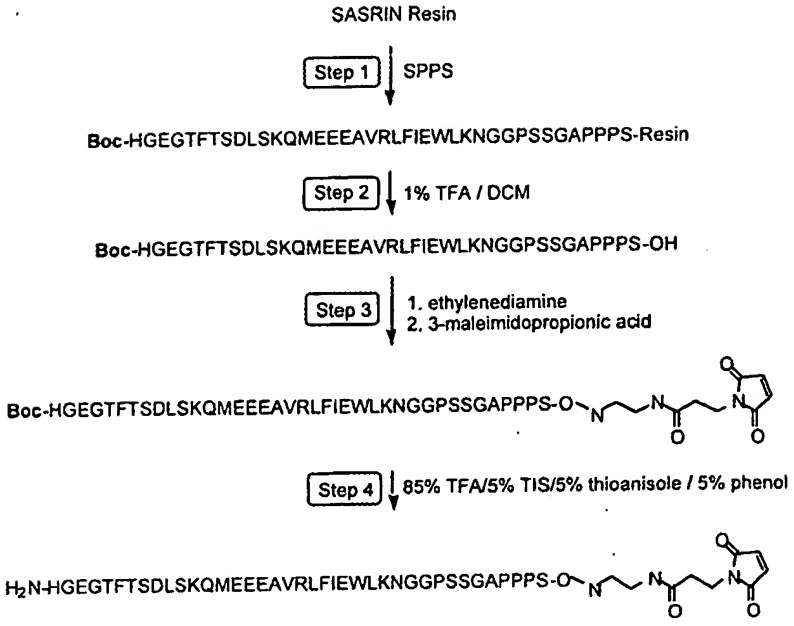
>95% purity, as determined by RP-HPLC. These steps are illustrated in the schematic diagram below.



Example 14 - Modification of Exendin-4 at the C-terminus Serine
Preparation of Exendin-4 (1-39)-EDA-MPA

Solid phase peptide synthesis of a modified Exendin-4 analog on a 100 µmole scale is performed manually and on a Symphony Peptide Synthesizer SASRIN (super acid sensitive resin). The following protected amino acids are sequentially added to the resin: Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Asn(Trt)-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Trp(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ile-

OH, Fmoc-Phe-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Val-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Met-OH, Fmoc-Gln(Trt)-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Asp(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Thr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Phe-OH, Fmoc-Thr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Boc-His(Trt)-OH. They are dissolved in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and, according to the sequence, activated using O-benzotriazol-1-yl-*N*, *N*, *N'*, *N'*-tetramethyl-uronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU) and Diisopropylethylamine (DIEA). Removal of the Fmoc protecting group is achieved using a solution of 20% (V/V) piperidine in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) for 20 minutes (Step 1). The fully protected peptide is cleaved from the resin by treatment with 1% TFA / DCM (Step 2). Ethylenediamine and 3-maleimidopropionic acid are then sequentially added to the free *C*-terminus (Step 3). The protecting groups are then cleaved and the product isolated using 86% TFA/5% TIS/5% H_2O/2% thioanisole and 2% phenol, followed by precipitation by dry-ice cold Et_2O (Step 4). The product is purified by preparative reverse phase HPLC using a Varian (Rainin) preparative binary HPLC system using a Dynamax C_{18}, 60Å, 8 µm, 21 mm x 25 cm column equipped with a Dynamax C_{18}, 60Å, 8 µm guard module, 21 mm x 25 cm column and UV detector (Varian Dynamax UVD II) at λ 214 and 254 nm to afford the desired DAC in >95% purity, as determined by RP-HPLC.



Exendin-4 (1-39)-EDA-MPA

Example 15 – Modification of Secretin Peptide at the ε-Amino Group of the Added C-terminus Lysine Residue Preparation of His-Ser-Asp-Gly-Thr-Phe-Thr-Ser-Glu-Leu-Ser-Arg-Leu-Arg-Glu-Gly-Ala-Arg-Leu-Glu-Arg-Leu-Leu-Gln-Gly-Leu-Val-Lys-(Nε-MPA)-NH_2

Solid phase peptide synthesis of a modified secretin peptide analog on a 100 µmole scale is performed using manual solid-phase synthesis, a Symphony Peptide Synthesizer and Fmoc protected Rink Amide MBHA. The following protected amino acids are sequentially added to resin: Fmoc-Lys(Aloc)-OH, Fmoc-Val-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Gln(Trt)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Glu(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Glu(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Glu(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Thr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Phe-OH, Fmoc-Thr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Asp(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-His(Boc)-OH.They are dissolved in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and, according to the sequence, activated using O-benzotriazol-1-yl-*N*, *N*, *N'*, *N'*-tetramethyl-uronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU) and Diisopropylethylamine (DIEA). Removal of the Fmoc protecting group is achieved using a solution of 20% (*V/V*) piperidine in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) for 20 minutes (Step 1).The selective deprotection of the Lys (Aloc) group is performed manually and accomplished by treating the resin with a solution of 3 eq of $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ dissolved in 5 mL of $CHCl_3$:NMM:HOAc (18:1:0.5) for 2 h (Step 2). The resin is then washed with $CHCl_3$ (6 x 5 mL), 20% HOAc in DCM (6 x 5 mL), DCM (6 x 5 mL), and DMF (6 x 5 mL). The synthesis is then re-automated for the addition of the 3-maleimidopropionic acid (Step 3). Between every coupling, the resin is washed 3 times with *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and 3 times with isopropanol. The peptide is

cleaved from the resin using 85% TFA/5% TIS/5% thioanisole and 5% phenol, followed by precipitation by dry-ice cold Et_2O (Step 4). The product is purified by preparative reverse phase HPLC using a Varian (Rainin) preparative binary HPLC system: gradient elution of 30-55% B (0.045% TFA in H_2O (A) and 0.045% TFA in CH_3CN (B)) over 180 min at 9.5 mL/min using a Phenomenex Luna 10 μ phenyl-hexyl, 21 mm x 25 cm column and UV detector (Varian Dynamax UVD II) at λ 214 and 254 nm to afford the desired DAC in >95% purity, as determined by RP-HPLC.

Example 16 – Modification of Kringle-5 at the ε-Amino Group of the Added C-terminus Lysine Residue
Preparation of NAc-Pro-Arg-Lys-Leu-Tyr-Asp-Tyr-Lys-(Nε-MPA)-NH_2.2TFA

Solid phase peptide synthesis of a modified Kringle-5 peptide on a 100 μmole scale was performed using manual solid-phase synthesis, a Symphony Peptide Synthesizer and Fmoc protected Rink Amide MBHA. The following protected amino acids are sequentially added to resin: Fmoc-Lys(Aloc)-OH, Fmoc-Tyr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Asp(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Tyr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH. They were dissolved in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and, according to the sequence, activated using O-benzotriazol-1-yl-*N*, *N*, *N'*, *N'*-tetramethyl-uronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU) and Diisopropylethylamine (DIEA). Removal of the Fmoc protecting group is achieved using a solution of 20% (*V/V*) piperidine in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) for 20 minutes (step 1). At the end of the synthesis Acetic Anhydride was added to acetylate the N-terminal.The selective deprotection of the Lys (Aloc) group is performed manually and accomplished by treating the resin with a solution of 3 eq of $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ dissolved in 5 mL of $CHCl_3$:NMM:HOAc (18:1:0.5) for 2 h (Step 2). The resin is then washed with $CHCl_3$ (6 x 5 mL), 20% HOAc in DCM (6 x 5 mL), DCM (6 x 5 mL), and DMF (6 x 5 mL). The synthesis is then re-automated for the addition of the 3-maleimidopropionic acid (Step 3).